Express Mailing Label No. EV475171778US Attorney Docket No: 21486-027DIV

Date of Deposit: April 15, 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CICANTS: Hopkins et al.

SERIAL NUMBER: 10/722,279 EXAMINER: Javier G. Blanco

FILING DATE: November 24, 2003 ART UNIT: 3738

FOR: CARDIAC VALVE REPLACEMENT

April 15, 2005

Boston, Massachusetts

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Transmitted herewith for filing in the present application are the following documents:

- 1. Response to Office Action (10 pages);
- 2. Declaration of Prior Invention Under 37 C.F.R. §1.131 (4 pages: 2 parts, 2 pages each);
- 3. Exhibits A through D (47 pages)
- 4. Petition for Extension of Time (1 page in duplicate);
- 5 Check No. 20398 in the amount of \$510.00; and
- 6. Return postcard.

Applicants believe that no additional fees are due with this submission; however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be due to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 21486-027DIV. A duplicate copy of this Transmittal Letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 15, 2005

Ingrid A. Beattie, Reg. No. 42,306

Attorney for Applicants

c/o MINTZ LEVIN

Tel.: (617) 542 6000

Fax: (617) 542-2241

Address all correspondence to Customer Number 30623

TRA 2027260v1